# The Bradford Map



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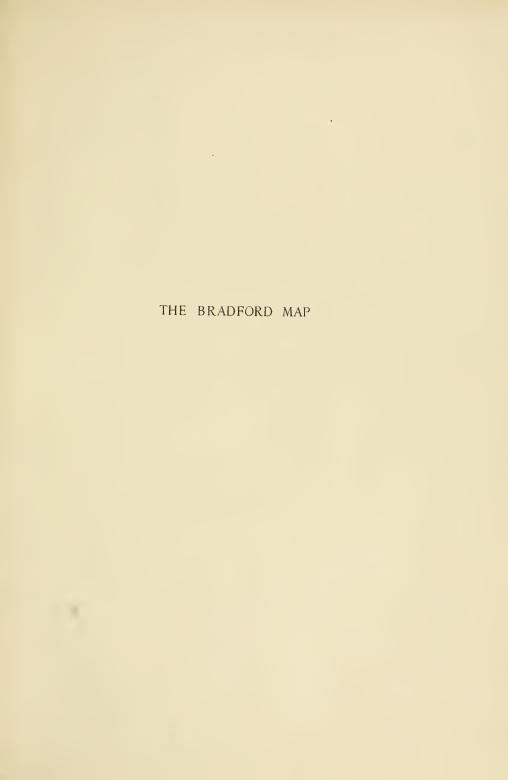






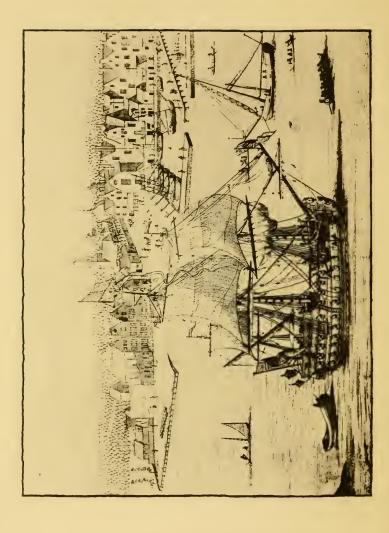
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A SECTION OF THE ENGRAVING MADE BY WILLIAM BURGIS IN 1717.

FROM THE ORIGINAL IN THE NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY.

# The Bradford Map

# THE CITY OF NEW YORK AT THE TIME OF THE GRANTING OF THE MONTGOMERIE CHARTER

A DESCRIPTION THEREOF COMPILED BY
WILLIAM LORING ANDREWS

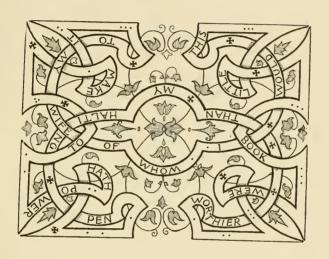
TO ACCOMPANY A FACSIMILE OF AN ACTUAL SURVEY MADE BY JAMES LYNE AND PRINTED BY WILLIAM BRADFORD IN 1731



NEW YORK
PRINTED AT THE DE VINNE PRESS
1893

F128

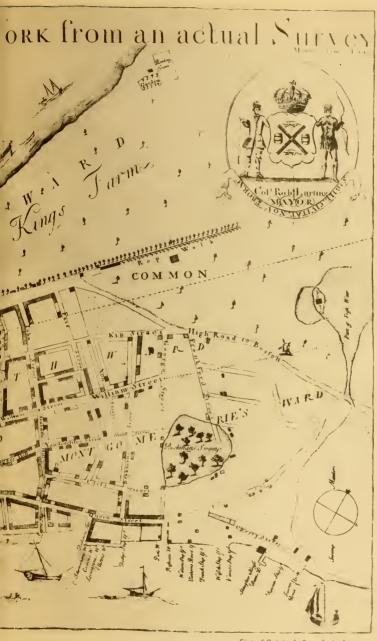
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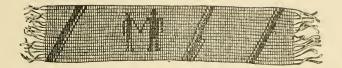






Size of Original,  $18 \times 22\frac{1}{4}$  inches.





#### **PREFACE**

THE primary purpose of the author in issuing this monograph is to place in circulation a limited number of reproductions of a few very rare prints relating to the early history of New York—a field in which the author began his collecting thirty years ago, and to which after many diversions he has returned again and again with renewed interest.

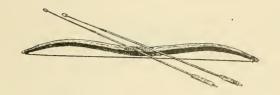
It is quite conceivable that the most ardent bibliophile might in time grow weary of gathering Aldines and Elzevirs, or even Fifteeners and old bindings; but there are certain kinds of books which never lose their attraction for those who have once become enamoured of them. No collector of early English poetry was ever known willingly to abandon his fascinating pursuit, and it is yet to be recorded of an antiquary born within sound of the bells of

#### Preface

Trinity Church that he tired in his quest for memorials of the city he loved. The fact that the game he seeks is one of the most difficult to run to earth only serves to incite his thirst and make the chase more eager and exciting.

Although no copies of the Bradford and Duyckinck maps and of the prints of Castle William and the Middle Dutch Church beyond those mentioned in this book have come to the knowledge of the author during many years of careful research, it is of course possible (but in his opinion improbable) that other copies will hereafter be discovered. There have been and will be many false alarms, however, especially in relation to the Bradford Map, "original" copies of which appear with considerable regularity from time to time.





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Still wert thou lovely, whatsoe'er thy name,
New Amsterdam, New Orange, or New York,
Whether in cradle sleep, on sea-weed laid,
Or on thy island throne in queenly power arrayed.

MRS. SIGOURNEY.



Let us satisfy our eyes
With the Memorials and the things of fame
That do renown the City.





NEW AMSTERDAM, NOW NEW YORK,
As it appeared about the year 16,0, while under the Dutch Government.

#### THE BRADFORD MAP

#### CHAPTER I

#### INTRODUCTION

OF all the maps and views illustrating the early history of the city of New York, none surpass in interest or exceed in rarity the "Survey" made by James Lyne, and printed and published by William Bradford in 1731. Only two impressions from the original copperplate, so far as known, exist. One, the gift of John Pintard in 1807 to the institution of which he was one of the founders, is in the collection of the New York Historical Society. This copy, unfortunately, is not in good condition. It was mounted on a stretcher and covered with a heavy

## The Bradford Map

coat of varnish many years ago, and the paper, which is of an inferior quality, is cracked and discolored. The other impression is in a better state of preservation. It may be called literally an *uncut* copy of the Map, as the rough edges of the sheet upon which it was printed remain intact. The only marks that the flight of time has left upon it are one or two small perforations and some breaks in the folds of the paper, but they have been skilfully repaired by that adept in the art of restoring decayed and injured prints, George Trent. In every other respect it is in the same condition as when it came from the rude, old-fashioned press of William Bradford.

In this piece of copperplate engraving no feature is lacking to render it an acquisition of the first importance to every collector of Americana. It is one of the earliest examples of the art of engraving executed in New York, and without doubt it is the first map printed here; it relates to the chief city on the continent, and it is of the utmost rarity. What more could the most fastidious collector demand?

This Map, the print of the Middle Dutch Church engraved by William Burgis at about the same period, the view of "t' Fort nieuw Amfterdam op de Manhatans" which is found in the "Befchrijvinghe Van Virginia," etc., published in Amsterdam in 1651, and the view of "Nieuw Amsterdam" in Adriaen vander Donck's "Nieuw-Nederlant," 1656, are the cornerstones of a collection of prints relating to New York





From the Original Print in the Collection of W. L. Andrews.

history. The books containing the two last named prints are still occasionally to be found, but the others were separate engravings, and consequently were more exposed to the hap and hazard of time. Their all but total disappearance is therefore not so much a matter of surprise.\*

The Bradford Map and the Middle Dutch Church print were stumbled upon by the writer thirty years ago in a book-hunting tour which he has ever since regarded as an exceptionally successful one. They were found preserved in an old scrap-book, which contained in addition a "View of Castle William by Boston in New England," a contemporaneous print of equal if not greater rarity. All three are among the very earliest specimens of American copperplate engraving. Prints of the Revolutionary epoch from the hands of our own engravers have become of infrequent occurrence, but these prints antedate them

<sup>\*</sup>In 1755, a map of New York city was published by Gerardus Duyckinck, which Du Simitière, writing in 1768, asserts to be the Bradford Map with additions and alterations; and its general appearance certainly gives color to this statement. If it be true that Duyckinck obtained possession of the Bradford plate, pieced it, and reëngraved portions of it, the scarcity of the impressions from the original engraving is readily explained. Curiously enough, according to Du Simitière, the Duyckinck map itself almost immediately after its publication became exceedingly difficult to obtain. The only copy now known to exist is the one in the New York Historical Society, and it certainly is a curious piece of patchwork.

by half a century. 'It was by a narrow chance that these interesting and historically important pictorial records of our city escaped complete destruction.

In all these years no third copy of the Map or of the Burgis print and no duplicate of the View



SEAL OF NEW NETHERLAND, 1623.

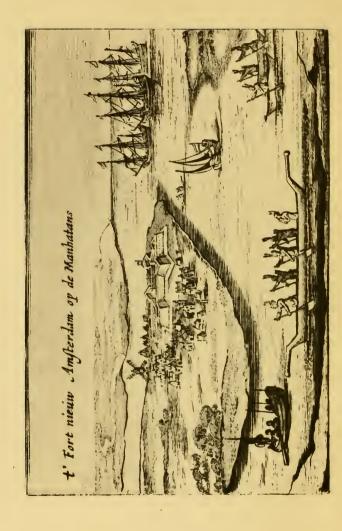
of Castle William have been brought to light. The second impression of the engraving of the Dutch Church, from which reduced copies were made for Valentine's History of New York and other publications, is or was in the possession of a Rev. Mr.

Strong, of Newtown, Long Island. No reproduction the size of the original appears to have been made.

The survey of James Lyne presents a view of New York as it appeared after little more than a century of growth; for, although the river which bears the name of Hudson was explored by its discoverer in 1609, and a small trading-post had been erected at Fort Nassau on Castle Island, near Albany, in 1614, it was not until the year 1626\* that a colony was permanently established on Manhattan Island under the auspices of the Dutch West India Company. On

<sup>\*</sup>The city was not incorporated under the name of New Amsterdam until 1652; it was laid out in streets in 1656.





FROM THE BESCHRIJVINGHE VAN VIRGINIA, NIEUW NEDERLANDT, NIEUW ENGELANDT, EN D'EYLANDEN BERMUDES, BERBADOS, EN S. CHRISTOFFEL. T'AMSTERDAM, 1651.

May 6 of that year the first real-estate transaction on the Island of Manhattan, and one involving the largest transfer of property ever made, was consummated. Governor Peter Minuit, representing the company, purchased for "their account and risk" the entire island from its aboriginal owners, giving in exchange for this wide domain a quantity of beads,



THE CITY OF AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND.

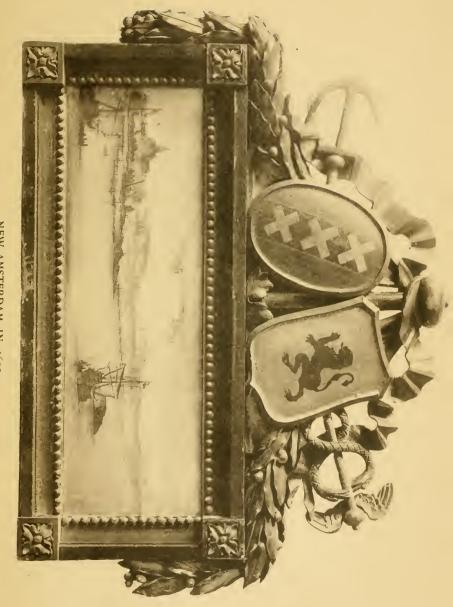
buttons, and other trinkets valued at sixty gulden (\$24). The amount of land secured for this paltry sum was estimated by Minuit at 22,000 acres.

The unsophisticated red men appear to have been mightily contented with their share in this transaction. There still remained in their undisputed control a continent of primeval forest, the depths of which they had but partially explored. Ignorant and

careless of the value or extent of their possessions, they willingly bartered away their woods and streams for a few trumpery articles of personal adornment. It mattered not to them if they pitched their wigwams and lighted their council-fires a few steps nearer to the setting sun. There was land enough and to spare for the pale-face, especially as the Indians believed that, while parting with the soil, they retained the right to fish and hunt upon it. This belief on their part led later to serious results.

The wily Dutch governor must have laughed in his sleeve as he clinched this one-sided bargain with a flagon of the "mad waters"—that is to say, good old Dutch schnapps—which tradition declares he found to be a potent factor in his dealings with the Indians and of special service in expediting this important negotiation. The very name of the island is a perpetual reminder of the unrestrained conviviality of this occasion. Manhattan—i. e., Manahachtanienks, a reveling name importing "the place where they all got drunk"—was then and there bestowed upon it by the Indians in commemoration of this great meeting.

The directors of the Dutch West India Company were not uninformed as to the value of their proposed purchase. Hendrick Hudson, on his return to Holland seventeen years before, had reported that he found it "a very good land to live in and a pleasant land to see," and the politic and energetic Minuit was despatched to secure possession of this desirable domain



NEW AMSTERDAM IN 1650.

AN ORIGINAL DRAWING BY LAURENS HERMANSZ BLOCK, ON BOARD THE SHIP LYDIA. IN THE ORIGINAL FRAME. SUPPOSED TO HAVE HUNG IN THE HOME OFFICE OF THE DUTCH WEST INDIA COMPANY. PRESENTED



on the best terms he could negotiate. There is no reason to believe that the directors ever complained

that he paid an exorbitant price for the rocks. swamps, and pools of Mannahatta. During the eight years following, according to the returns made to Holland by the Company, they received from the colony more than 50,000 beaverand 6000 otterskins of the value of over 525,000

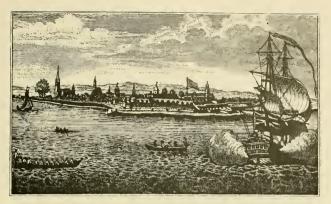


DUTCH WEIGHT.

gulden. If purchased from the Indians, as Irving assures us they were, by Dutch weight, the Dutchman's hand being deemed the equivalent of one pound and his foot of two, there must have been a considerable profit in the business they transacted in furs. Nevertheless, through official mismanagement of the affairs of the province, the stockholders of the Company found themselves in the long run decidedly out of pocket.

Snug houses and neat stoops, where friends would often meet,
The men with pipes, cock'd hats, and fine long queues,
The girts with white short gowns, stuff petticoats, and high-heel shoes,
And knitting at the side and fingers going,
And now and then a tender glance bestowing.





SOUTH-WEST VIEW OF FORT GEORGE, WITH THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

#### CHAPTER II

THE CITY AND ITS INHABITANTS IN 1731

WE are surprised to find as we unfold our Map that the city of New York so late as 1731 was confined within such narrow limits, and that so few were the steps that had as yet been taken in that triumphant march of material progress which has brought the metropolis of the New World to its present pinnacle of power and greatness. It was, indeed, a day of small things, a town of less than 1500 houses and 9000 inhabitants, on the outskirts of which the echo of the Indian's warwhoop had

hardly yet died away. Broadway, for years the pride of every Knickerbocker's heart until its glory was overshadowed and its prestige eclipsed by that of Fifth Avenue, was one hundred and sixty years ago a common country road. In the place of lofty warehouses filled with costly merchandise, high banks of clay skirted its sides. Farm-houses were scattered here and there along its length, and on that portion of it where St. Paul's Church now stands fields of wheat were growing in rank luxuriance.\*

Unlike the Quaker City of Philadelphia, laid out in the beginning with rectangular streets crossing each other at prescribed distances with mathematical precision, the streets of New York were left largely

* Census	OF	New	York	Сіту	AND	COUNTY,	November	2D,	1731.	
Henry Reebman Sheriff										

White	males, above	ten years,						2628
66	females, "	"						2250
"	males, under	"						1143
"	females, "	"						1024
Black	males, above	6.6						599
6.6	females, "	"						607
"	males, under	"						186
66	females, "	"						185
								8622

Total population of the entire province:

Whites,					50,242
Blacks,	•	•			7,202

to their own devices. Cow-paths and lovers' walks are responsible for the location and devious windings of some, while others "meandered of their own sweet will in green suburban groves," or followed lazily the indentations of the shore. Pearl Street (then

called Queen, in honor of Queen Anne) was the first roadway above the waterline on the East River, and no street running north and south except a section of Church had as yet been laid out west of Broad-



FARM-HOUSE ON BROADWAY.

way. From Old Wind-mill Lane, just above Crown Street, now Liberty, the green fields of the "King's Farm"\* stretched in an unbroken expanse northward and westward to the banks of the Hudson, and from the steps of old Trinity Church no building obstructed the delightful view of the "Great River" † flowing clear and sparkling in the sunshine, its waters unvexed by the furrow of any keel save

<sup>\*</sup> Trinity Church property, granted to the corporation in 1705 by Lord Cornbury, who reserved a quit-rent of three shillings.

<sup>†</sup> Groote Rieviere de Montaines.

that of an occasional leisurely-going clump-built Albany sloop.

Wandering through the streets of New York in 1731, names unfamiliar to its present denizens would



TRINITY CHURCH AS ENLARGED, 1737.

have met the wayfarer's eye at every turn. The English conquerors of the city had almost entirely obliterated the Dutch street nomenclature. and from time to time thereafter they altered names to suit dynastic changes in the mother country. The close of the Revolutionary War, with its successful abolishment of kingly rule, speedily brought about a general rechristening of every street in the name

of which there was any suggestion of royalty.

Pearl Street (Paerl Straat), the crooked street of New York, which grievously perplexes the pedestrian by beginning and ending on Broadway, was variously known in 1657 as the Smiths' Valley, the Hoogh

Straat, the Waal (or sheet piled) Street, and the Waterside. In 1691 the lower portion was called Dock Street. Some years later that part above Hanover Square became known as Queen Street, a title it retained as late as 1789. But the present Cedar Street also bore that name, and to avoid confusion these thoroughfares were called respectively Great Queen Street and Little Queen Street. An open space on Pearl Street in the block bounded by Whitehall, Moore, and Water Streets was in early days known as the Strand, and was used as a market-place or stand for country wagons. The first church built on Manhattan Island, erected in 1633,\* was a plain frame building on the north side of Pearl Street, between Broad Street and Old Slip. In 1642 this old kirk was abandoned as a place of worship, and devoted to business purposes.

The upper part of William Street was named after William Beekman. From Maiden Lane to Pearl Street it was called Smith Street. In olden days the lower part was known as Burger's Path, and later as The Glassmakers' Street.

John Harpending, the shoemaker, who donated the land (a part of the "Shoemaker's Pasture") upon which stood the Dutch Church at the corner of Fulton and William streets, gave the name to John Street.

<sup>\*</sup> For a number of years previously religious meetings had been held in a loft above the first horse mill erected on the island.

The descent from William Street to Pearl was known as Golden Hill.

Cliff Street ran through Vandercliff's orchard. On the Bradford Map his name is given to a portion of



ARMS OF JOHN HARPENDING.

the present Gold Street, while the appellation of Clift Street is applied to the street next to the eastward, which is the present Cliff Street. Cliff Street intersected Golden Hill, and this fact, according to the annalist Watson, gave rise to its name, "along the cliff."

Beekman Slip, Fair Street, Division Street, and Partition Street were the various names by which Fulton Street was known prior to 1816.

Maiden Lane\* was called in Dutch "t'Maadge Paatge," or the Maiden's Path; and a quiet, secluded road leading through the farm of Colonel Rutgers, much frequented by romantically disposed couples, was known as Love Lane. Phlegmatic as were those old Dutch burghers, they were by no means devoid of sentiment.

Nassau Street was at first known only by the gastronomical designation of "the road that leads by the

<sup>\*</sup> The first settlers upon Maiden Lane were ship-carpenters.

pie-woman's to the City Commons." ln 1731 the upper part was called Kip Street.

Wall Street ("Lang de Wal") marks the original line of the city's palisades, which were erected for defense against foes from neighboring colonies as well as from incursions by the Indians; hence its name,

which has not been changed the year since 1700. Its old Dutch title was the "Cingel," or ramparts, and "t'Schaape Waytie," or the public sheep-walk, extended from it towards the pres-



EAST SIDE OF BROAD STREET, CORNER OF EXCHANGE PLACE, IN 1780.

ent Exchange Place. It is currently reported that lambs are still to be seen browsing in this vicinity, and that they frequently return home badly fleeced.

At the foot of Wall Street on the East River stood the Slave Market. The average price for an ablebodied negro, when the market was not overstocked by too frequent arrivals from the coast of Guinea, was \$125. Human flesh was a cheap commodity in New York in 1731.

Garden Street, previously known as Verleitenberg (corrupted to Flattenbarrack) Street, is now Exchange

Place. The portion of it lying on the declivity between Broadway and Broad Street was in winter a famous coasting-place for the youth of the town. In the spring and summer months the corner of Exchange Place and Broad Street was frequented by the Indians, who there manufactured and exposed for sale basket work, the material for which they had brought in their canoes from the interior.

Whitehall Street derives its name from a large house built by Governor Thomas Dongan, and named Whitehall after the London palace of the kings of England from Henry VIII. to William III. In 1659 this street was known as "t'Marckvelt Steegie," or path to the Marketfield (the present Bowling Green). The ruins of Dongan's house could be seen on the river front as late as 1769. They are included in the section of the long panoramic view of New-York by Burgis which is reproduced in this book.

Broad Street, built on the line of a creek or inlet which extended up as far as Wall Street, was in 1657 called the "Heeren Gracht" (the principal canal), and also the "Prince Gracht." Bridge Street (Brugh Straat) crossed it by a bridge. State Street is said to have been the first street in the city paved with stone. In most of the early streets the gutter, or "kennel," ran through the center.

Not even the principal thoroughfare of the city has escaped mutation in its name, having been called the Breedweg, the Heere Straat, the Great Highway, the

Broad Waggon Way, Great George Street, and the Middle Road; but since the year 1674 that part of it below Vesey Street has remained in undisturbed enjoyment of its present title. Above Vesey Street

it was so late as 1794\* called Great George Street. In 1707 it was first paved, from Trinity Church to Maiden Lane.

The Park, probably the first recognized public



BROADWAY, NEAR GRACE CHURCH, 1828.

property on the island, has been known at various periods as the Vlackte, or Flat, the Plains, the Commons, and the Fields. It was ceded to the corporation of the city of New York in 1686 by Governor Dongan, and has remained without interruption in possession of the city government from that date to the present time. In 1731 it was a neglected waste covered with brush and underwood. It remained uninclosed from the public highway for many years, and was used with adjacent unoccupied lands principally as pasturage for the cows of the townspeople. Summoned in the early morning by the blast of a horn at the garden gate, the cattle were collected by

<sup>\*</sup>A number of changes in the names of streets was ordered in this year.



PLAN OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, 1789.

the public cowherd and driven to the Commons, guarded through the day, and returned to their owners at nightfall. Portions of the Park and its vicinity were also used for public executions. In 1691 Jacob Leisler here ended his life on the scaffold, and in the immediate neighborhood took place the wholesale burnings and hangings of the unfortunate creatures implicated in the Negro Plot of 1741. David Grim's map of 1742 marks some low-lying ground near the corner of Pearl and Chambers Streets as the location where the stakes were set up and this tragedy enacted; the gibbet was erected a little further to the north. Grim states that he well remembered hearing the shrieks and cries of the tortured wretches.

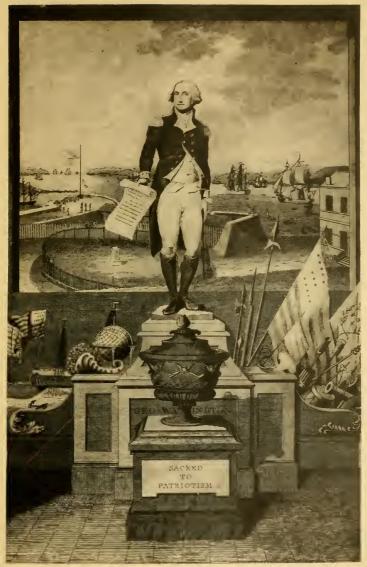
After the vacant space in front of the Fort was inclosed and laid out as the Bowling Green, the Commons became the favorite, and in fact the only convenient, spot in the city for bonfires, illuminations, military exercises, and popular demonstrations of all kinds. It also served the inhabitants as a dumping-ground for refuse, as well as a source of supply of earth and sod, the constant removal of which it was found necessary in 1731 to prohibit by a city ordinance forbidding the digging of any holes on the Commons, or the carrying away of "earth, mould, sod, or turf."

The Bowling Green does not appear on the Bradford Map, as it was not laid out until March, 1733, when by a city ordinance it was "Resolved, that this

Corporation will lease a piece of ground lying at the lower end of Broadway fronting to the Fort, to some of the inhabitants of the said Broadway in order to be inclosed to make a bowling green thereof, with walks therein for the beauty and ornament of said streets, as well as for the recreation and delight of the inhabitants of the City, leaving the street on each side thereof fifty feet in breadth, under such covenants and restrictions as to the court shall seem expedient." In the succeeding month the Mayor, Aldermen Van Gelde and Philipse, and Mr. De Peyster, or any three of them, were appointed a committee to lay out the ground, and the same was leased to Mr. John Chambers, Mr. Peter Bayard, and Mr. Peter Jay for the term of eleven years for the use aforesaid, and not otherwise, under the annual rent of a peppercorn.

To the east of the Park lay the highway to Boston and Albany by way of Kingsbridge—the only outlet from the city to the north. Over this road ran once a week from March to December, and fortnightly in winter (until Lady Day), a post making the journey to Boston in a week—or two weeks, according to the weather and the condition of the road.

The post was carried to Albany in winter on horse-back or on *foot*. New York was in similar frequent and rapid communication with Philadelphia, but in the quarter of a century which followed the facilities for intercourse between these cities increased so much



Designed and drawn by Charles Buxton, M. D.

Tiebout, sculp.

From the Original Engraving in the Collection of W. L. Andrews.



that in the year 1755 we read of the establishment of a bi-weekly post, which arrived in Philadelphia at noon on the third day after leaving New York, wind and weather permitting. This appears to have met all the postal and traveling demands of the public until 1774, when an opposition to the "old slow-



THE CITY HALL PARK ABOUT 1831.

coach," as it had come to be contemptuously styled, was started with a flaming advertisement of "good waggons and seats on springs." The new conveyance was dubbed the "Flying Machine," and its promoters promised that it should cover the distance between the two cities in the unprecedented time of two days. With what an amount of incredulity would they have received a prophecy that in 1892 two hours would suffice for the journey!

39

So late as 1807, as will be seen by the schedule below, it was a day's journey from New York to Philadelphia, unless the traveler patronized the Mail Coach, which went rattling through at the spanking gait of six miles an hour.



A PUBLIC STAGE-COACH.

#### STAGES FROM NEW YORK TO PHILADELPHIA

Stages	St	arts at	Arrives	Fare
Mail Stage	¹ past 12 dail	y except Sunday	4 next morning	
Mail Pilot	do	do	do	
Industry	8 а. м.	do	early next day	1
Diligence	8 а. м.	do	do	
Commercial	10 A. M.	do	next day afternoon	
Swift-Sure	10 A. M.	do	do	
1				

<sup>14</sup> lb. of Baggage allowed gratis in all the above stages. 150 lb. will be rated as a passenger.

Baggage in the Swift-Sure insured at 1 per cent.

A road from the Fresh Water to Harlem was provided by the Dutch in 1658 and laid out anew in 1671, but seven years later it is recorded that a traveler from New York bound for this settlement was compelled to leave the Bouwerie and proceed by trail through the woods. In the year 1703 an attempt was made to improve the continuation of this road from about 109th Street to Kingsbridge. Until the beginning of the nineteenth century this was the only road that crossed the Harlem River, branching out just beyond it into the roads leading to Boston and Albany.

It is evident that neither this one main road nor the few by-roads and leafy lanes that intersected it were even in 1731 cared for in the best manner, and they could have afforded but little opportunity for pleasure-driving. A private coach was indeed more of a luxury than a private steam-yacht is to-day, and in fact as little of a necessity.

With one exception — that of Colonel William Smith, Governor of Tangiers, who brought his carriage to New York in 1686 — no coach but that of the colonial governor had appeared in the streets of New York prior to the year 1700. A two-wheel chaise for one horse was the most fashionable vehicle, and one which continued in general use up to the time of the Revolution. There was no coach builder in the city until the year 1750, when James Hallett swung out his sign of the Golden Wheel on

Golden Hill, and notified the town that he was prepared to manufacture chaise, chair, and kittereen boxes at most reasonable rates and with all expedition. The chair referred to was not a sedan-chair, but simply a small chaise without any hood. What a "kittereen" was we have been unable to discover. The first hackney coach was advertised in 1696 by John Clap, who kept a tavern in the Bowery, near 9th Street.

The common mode of travel was on horseback, the lady mounted on a pillion or padded cushion fixed behind the saddle of her cavalier or servant, upon whose support she was therefore dependent. This fashion was a favorite one with the youthful portion of the population, and considered of great assistance in match-making. The horses, fat and slow-gaited, rarely went off a walk, and required little attention on the part of the rider, who was thus left free to devote himself assiduously to the prosecution of an *affaire de cœur* if so inclined.

The coach, or chariot, as it was called, of the last century was an unwieldy structure, if we may judge from the one represented in Burgis's engraving of the Middle Dutch Church. It is presumably that of Rip van Dam, to whom the plate is inscribed. It is a one-seated vehicle hung on leathern straps. The negro coachman is clad in the cocked hat and bright parti-colored livery of the day, and the footman, of the same ebony hue, is in equally gorgeous array.

When the President of his Majesty's Council for the Province of New York sallied forth, it was with no inconsiderable amount of state, albeit with some discomfort, in his cumbersome vehicle that rumbled and jolted over the rough cobblestone pavements of the town. In this print Nassau Street is seen to be



THE BEEKMAN FAMILY COACH.

paved with cobblestones. Liberty Street still remained a natural country road.

"The Kolck, or Kalchhook, signifying in Dutch the shell point, the Collect, or Fresh Water Pond, was the most striking geographical feature of the lower part of the island. In its natural state it was a beautiful lake of about ten acres in extent, supposed to be of great depth, but in reality not over fifty feet in its deepest part. Fed by numerous springs, its water was of unusual purity, and fur-

nished the inhabitants with an ample supply for all domestic purposes. The famous 'tea-water' pump was erected over one of the springs whence the pond received its crystal waters. It was situated in a dell or hollow near the present junction of Chatham and Roosevelt Streets." The bridge which spanned a brook at this point, and another some three miles farther north, were the renowned "kissing bridges," at which it was a time-honored custom for the beaux to levy toll of their fair companions when returning from a country excursion.

At this time the pond abounded in fish, and it was evidently a favorite resort of the pot-hunter as well as of the true disciple of gentle Izaak Walton. In 1734 it was found necessary to promulgate a city ordinance prohibiting netting in the Fresh Water, or the taking of any fish except by angling with a hook and line, under a penalty of twenty shillings for each offense. This is doubtless the first law for the preservation of fish enacted in the State of New York.

The natural outlet of the pond was through a brook called "Old Wreck Brook," which ran through Wolfert's Meadows to the East River. Between the pond and the North River a marsh extended, known as Lispenard's Meadows, through which also ran streams from the pond. On these meadows, in the vicinity of the present Greenwich street, stood Lispenard's house and brewery.

About the year 1805 the entire Collect Pond was filled in, after a long debate as to whether it should not be left with a canal running through it. Perhaps there still lingered in the community the same differ-



LISPENARD'S MEADOWS, CANAL STREET AND HUDSON RIVER.

From original drawing by Alexander Anderson.

ences of opinion that had formerly led to the famous dispute chronicled by Washington Irving between Mynheers Tenbroek and Hardenbrook about the plan of New Amsterdam—the one insisting that they should run out docks and wharves, and the other that it should be cut up and intersected by canals, after the manner of Old Amsterdam. The grim and gloomy prison-house well named the Tombs now occupies a portion of this made ground, and probably marks about the center of the Fresh Water.

The principal landmarks of the town besides Fort

George and the buildings it inclosed, and the City Hall in Wall Street, were the church buildings, notably the Old South Dutch Church in Garden Street, Trinity Church on Broadway, the Huguenot Church



THE DE PEYSTER MANSION.

in Pine Street, and the Middle or New Dutch Church on the corner of Nassau and Liberty Streets, then being completed. The quaint belfry-crowned or pointed steeples of these sacred edifices towered protectingly over

the lowly roofs of the inhabitants, and their glistening gilt weathercocks kept the populace constantly informed as to the quarter of the wind; but of town clocks there were none except the one in the City Hall, the gift of Etienne De Lancey, and but a few shagreen-cased turtle-shell or pinchbeck watches were to be found in the pockets of the people. Time was not quite so much a matter of money then as it is now, and the community was not so careful to note the passing hours. The shadow on the door-step was a sufficiently accurate timepiece for all practical

purposes;—the day's task was not measured by an eight- or ten-hour rule, but by the rising and going down of the sun.

The houses were two to three stories in height besides the attic; those remaining of the Dutch period presented their gable-ends to the street. These gables tapered to the top by a succession of steps, and the pinnacle was frequently surmounted, like the church spires, with a weathercock. The town, in fact, bristled with weathercocks. These picturesque features of the city and their accompaniments—double doors with bull's-eye lights and "stoopes" with cozy side-seats—were nearly all swept away in the great fire of 1776.

The English style of domestic architecture was of extreme simplicity in design and finish, its only characteristic feature being an "outlook" on the roof, which was either shingled or covered with slate. The materials used in construction were wood, stone, and brick. The latter, of a golden hue, are supposed to have been imported at first from Holland and England; but the industry of brick-making was at a very early date established in the colony. In 1742 there were six brick-kilns in operation on the Commons. Neighboring forests yielded an abundance of fine oak and other timber; good buildingstone was readily obtainable on the island itself, and lime could be manufactured from oyster- and clamshells. The bay of New York abounded in oyster-

beds, which supplied the poorer portion of the population with the greater part of their means of subsistence for six months in the year. The beds were in view of the city, and from the Battery hundreds of small boats could be seen at a time gathering the succulent bivalves. The value of this product was computed to amount to £10,000 or £12,000 per annum.

New York at this period gave slight promise of the great maritime city it was destined to become. Only here and there a sail dotted the beautiful bay now thronged with vessels bearing the flags of all nations. In 1730 but 211 vessels of all descriptions entered the port of New York, and only 222 cleared from it during that year. The docking facilities, although very limited, had been much improved since the occupation by the English, and it will be seen by the Bradford Map that the wharves extended from Whitehall Street to Beekman on the East River, while on the North River there were four docks in the neighborhood of Cortlandt Street for the accommodation of the Hudson River trade.\* Large sea-going vessels anchored in the stream, and loaded and discharged their cargoes by means of scows and small boats.

<sup>\*</sup>The reason assigned for the fact that the East Side was docked out and better built up than the West Side, was that winter freshets sometimes filled the Hudson River with ice. The first wharf in the city was built, it is said, by Daniel Litschoe, a tavernkeeper on the Strand, foot of Broad Street.

"Down East" and up the Hudson, on their seven days' or longer voyage to Albany, sailed a gallant little fleet of sloops, commanded by skippers who were worthy successors of their hardy Dutch progenitors, the "yacht" sailors, Goovert Lockermans, Jan Peeck, and Isaac Kip. Skilfully they navigated the dangerous whirlpools of the Helle Gat or the perilous



EAST VIEW OF HELL GATE, IN THE PROVINCE OF NEW YORK.

waters of the Tappan Zee, and braved the thunders of Storm King and Cro' Nest; when the tide did not serve, going ashore for a glass of buttermilk or cider and a chat with the farmers, and religiously, in strict observance of the old Dutch laws of navigation, dropping anchor at sundown.

From up the river these itinerant traders brought down furs and country produce; from Yankeedom whatnots — mayhap wooden bowls, and nutmegs,

and counterfeit wampum currency.\* These vessels also carried passengers, and their departure was the occasion of more affecting scenes than are now witnessed on the dock of an outgoing transatlantic steamer. The prospective voyage was a lengthier one, and deemed quite as hazardous, and a not unusual preliminary before embarking on it was the execution of a last will and testament.

There were boats called ketches trading with Virginia, and returning with cargoes of the fragrant product of the Old Dominion. These coastwise traders were small craft, and even those engaged in the longer and rougher voyages to the West Indies appear to have been without exception in the category of sloops. An important part of the commerce of New York was with those Windward Islands. From the Barbadoes were brought large quantities of rum, sugar, and molasses; cotton was imported from St. Thomas and Surinam, lime-juice and Nicaragua wood from Curaçoa, and logwood from the Bay of Honduras. Exports to the West Indies consisted of pork, staves, flour, and general country produce, including horses and sheep. Oysters, usually pickled,

<sup>\*</sup>Wampum, or white money, was made from the inside of the shell of the quahaug, or hard clam, and was perforated and strung together. Four beads for a stuyver, or two for a cent, passed as currency with the Indians for many hundred miles to the westward as well as in the settlements on the coast. This money was counterfeited in porcelain.

were a current article of export; there is a legend, perhaps unworthy of belief, that quantities of fried oysters were shipped in the firkins of fresh country butter sent to the planters.

Arrivals from England occurred generally in the spring and fall months, and were events of great interest and importance. Ships from London were from four to six weeks, or even more, upon the passage. They came laden with all kinds of manufactured articles, household furniture, wearing apparel, woolen and cotton goods,\* Turkey carpets, and—all the latest news and fashions. Outward cargoes were composed of naval stores, tar, pitch, and turpentine, whale-fins, oil, and other products of this country, and of sugar, cotton, and logwood imported from the West Indies.†

In the files of the New York Gazette for this period but three clearances of vessels for Holland appear, and commerce with the country which founded the colony had obviously fallen into decay. Chief Justice Smith, however, writing some years later, states that a considerable trade with Hamburg and Holland still existed in duck, checkered linen, oznabrigs, cordage, and tea. This latter item was, according

<sup>\*</sup> For purposes of barter with the Indians, as well as for the colonists' own consumption.

<sup>†</sup> In 1728 the imports from Great Britain are stated to have been of the value of £21,005 128. 11d., and the exports £78,561 68. 4d.

to that historian, a very important one, as "our people both in town and country have shamefully gone into the habit of tea drinking."

There is one other branch of the commerce of the city to which reference should be made—the importation of slaves from the coast of Africa: a business considered strictly legitimate, if not eminently respectable, and one in which not a small proportion of the shipping interest was at times very profitably employed. Occasionally it appears to have suffered from over-importation.

"Slavery was at this time an established institution in the colony, and the number of slaves in a household constituted a peculiar mark of easy circumstances in their proprietor. The wealthier classes were surrounded and served by a multitude of them, and every domestic establishment was provided with one or more. The people of New York, however, lived in fear of the ignorant and in many respects debased population they held in bondage, and which composed about one sixth of the community." The laws relating to negroes and slaves were extremely rigid. No slave above fourteen years of age was allowed to be in the streets south of the Fresh Water above an hour after sunset, and if so found without a lantern and lighted candle, and not in the company of his master or owner, the slave might be arrested and whipped and the master fined. Slaves were also punished by whipping for the slightest disorderly con-

duct. This severity led, a few years later, to one of the most tragic occurrences in the early history of the city. Upon evidence, which was afterward believed to be grossly exaggerated, of a concerted plan to destroy the town by fire and massacre the inhabitants, 154 negroes and 20 white persons were arrested and committed to prison. Of the negroes charged with this conspiracy, 14 were burned alive at the stake, 18 hanged, and 71 transported. Four of the white persons implicated, one a Catholic priest named Ury, were also executed. So great was the prejudice against the negroes on this occasion that not a single lawyer would appear in court in their defense. No more somber page darkens the annals of the city of New York than the one which records the history of the Negro Plot. Reason appears to have been dethroned and the dictates of humanity cast aside in the momentary terror which seized upon the town.

The city in 1731 had begun to assume the appearance and take to itself the air of a municipality. Some of the streets were paved and were occasionally cleaned.\* It was lighted in a desultory sort of way, and it had a night police force on duty for a portion of the year.

<sup>\*</sup>Once a week the inhabitants were obliged by law to sweep the dirt in heaps before their respective premises, that it might be removed the following day by the city cartmen, who were paid for this service by the property-owners. Broad Street was at this time the only one cleaned at the public expense.

The city watch consisted of four men, sometimes called bellmen, or "kloppermannen." They were employed only from the 1st of November to the 25th of March, and their stipend was at the most but £15 each per annum, out of which they supplied their own fire and light; the lantern, bell, and hour-



A FIRE IN NEW YORK IN 1731.

From the heading of a Fireman's Certificate.

glass which they carried were provided by the city. The cost of the entire force was thus at the highest only £60 per annum, and this sum was reduced at times as low as £36, or £9 per man. The average from 1700 to 1740 was £44 per annum.

If a fire broke out at night the nearest watchman would give an alarm with his rattle and knock at the doors of houses in the vicinity, crying, "Throw out

your buckets." Once an hour through the night, with loud clattering of their kloppers, they cried out the time and the state of the weather. It is not to be imagined that this periodical racket disturbed the profound slumbers of the inhabitants, but rather that through long custom it had become an accompaniment of the night as essential to their repose as were the rush and roar of the Thames to that of the keeper of London Bridge. In those days night found the city wrapped in sleep; now from dark to dawn the beat of its great throbbing heart never ceases.

The measures taken for lighting the streets at night were of an intermittent character. The provision made during the winter season, on the nights when the economical lunar light was not available, was as follows: Every seventh house was required to cause a lantern to be hung out on a pole every night in the dark time of the moon from November until the 25th March, the charge to be paid in equal proportions by the seven houses, under the penalty of ninepence for every default. During the remainder of the year probably the entire population, with the exception of a few roystering blades, was snugly tucked away in bed by nightfall.

The organization of a Fire Department, with twenty-four members, dates from the year 1731.\*

\*On the 6th of May, 1731, the city authorities passed the following ordinance: "Resolved, with all convenient speed to procure two complete fire engines with suctions and materials thereto

Hooks and ladders were provided, and two engines were brought from London, but we do not read of the importation of any of the fire-extinguishers known in the British metropolis as "hand-squirts." Leathern buckets were the only appliances the city had previously possessed for the extinguishing of fires: these buckets were numbered and distributed by the authorities, and the law required every householder to be supplied with them and to keep them hanging in a conspicuous and convenient place. A dwellinghouse with two chimneys had one fire-bucket; a house with more than two chimneys, two buckets. Brewers were compelled to provide six buckets, and bakers three. The mayor and aldermen took charge at fires, and every person over twenty-one years of age was compelled to do fire duty, under a penalty for refusal of one pound. After a fire the buckets were left in an indiscriminate heap, and the urchins of the town turned many a penny by sorting them out and returning each to its rightful owner.

Property-values at this period in the history of the city were certainly not upon an inflated basis. In 1726 a house on the west side of Broadway, with a lot 70 feet front and 50 feet deep, was sold to Fred-

belonging—for the public service. That the sizes thereof be of the 4th and 6th sizes of Mr. Newsham's fire engines \* \* \* to send to London by the first conveniency." These engines arrived about December 6th by the "good ship Beaver." Six years later fire engines were built and sold in New York.





FROM A WATER-COLOR DRAWING BY A. J. DAVIS, ARCHITECT, IN THE COLLECTION OF W. L. ANDREWS. WALL STREET FROM WILLIAM, ABOUT 1830.

erick Philipse for about \$1100, and in 1729 a lot on Maiden Lane, near Pearl Street, 25 feet front, depth not given, brought about \$700. Threepence per foot was paid for land on the west side of Broadway near the Battery. A house on Wall Street, lot  $61 \times 102$  feet, sold for about \$2500. In the "Swamp," known as Bestevaar's Kripple-bush, or the Old Man's Swamp, for which in 1732 Jacobus Roosevelt obtained a quit-claim grant from the city for the sum of £300.\* or \$750, lots 25 × 100 sold for £10 per lot. In 1727 four lots on George Street, now Spruce, and two lots on Gold Street, part of the Beekman pasture, were sold for \$225. In 1713 this swamp was regarded as a source of malaria, and an attempt was made to drain it.

On May 6, 1732, a *great* sale of seven lots of ground on Dock Street, near the Custom House, and east of Whitehall Street, took place. They were sold for the following sums, and to the persons named:

Lot	No.	1	to	Stephen De Lancey,	£155
					151
6.6	"	3	66	David Clarkson,	155
6 6	6.6	4	66	John Moore,	275
6 6	6.6	5	"	Stephen De Lancey,	192
6 6	66	6	66	Robt. Livingston, son of Philip,	175
6.6	6.6	7	6.6	Anthony Rutgers,	239

<sup>\*21</sup> shillings sterling was the equivalent of 36 shillings in New York provincial currency.

By which it appears, says the chronicler of this transaction, that real estate had increased in value *immensely* since 1686, when lots in that quarter of the city sold for £35.

The revenues and expenditures of the municipal government were upon a most moderate scale. For the year 1727 the receipts are stated to have been £271, and the expenditures £231. In 1740 the receipts had risen to but £747. They were derived principally from the rent of docks and ferries, licenses to retailers of spirituous liquors, leases of common lands, and rents of water-lots. In 1722 a ferry to Long Island from Burger's Path (Old Slip) was rented for £71 per annum.

The majority of the population of the inchoate city was engaged in business pursuits as merchants, shopkeepers, and tradesmen, "who maintained as a general rule the reputation of honest, punctual, and fair dealers." Their places of business were either in the same building as their dwellings or in close proximity. The most prosperous merchants—and they included the most prominent citizens—lived in the rear of their shops or over them. The English tradesmen are said to have been the first to adopt the practice of keeping their stores open in the evening.

Among the articles kept in stock behind the one solitary counter in these modest little shops were many that would perplex and put to confusion a salesman if inquired for to-day in one of our mammoth dry-

goods houses. Black padusoy, shagreen, striped sarsnets, silk camblet, cherry derry, blue tabby, black figured everlasting, French double alamode, Persian, and grogram. India dimity, and hoop petticoats of six rows, might not prove so utterly unintelligible.

There was in the community the necessary sprinkling of professional men, ministers, doctors, lawyers, and government officials; but it supported no leisure class, and the tramp had not as yet been evolved. These two extremes of society remained to be developed by a higher civilization.

Industry, frugality, and simplicity were the social virtues which adorned New York in 1731. Aside from the number of bond-servants who thronged their masters' gates, there was little of ostentation or lavish display in the style of living even of the "high families," but there was much of the observance of an old-fashioned courtesy in the ceremonious interchange of the civilities of life. To the gatherings of fashion the rich and picturesque costume of both sexes lent an air of stateliness and dignity which has vanished with the dress.

The most distinguished position, in point of social importance, was held by the Dutch families. The Hollanders had lost their political supremacy, but their social prominence remained, and they were by no means disposed to yield it to the higher and even more refined and better educated class of English who had become residents of the city. More than one

half the inhabitants were Dutch or of Dutch descent. In the Collegiate Church this language was still in exclusive use in the pulpit, and as late as the year 1745 a knowledge of the Dutch tongue was a necessity in visiting the markets.

The principal Dutch festivals were Christmas, New Year's, Paas, Pinxter (Whitsuntide, the great negro holiday), San Claas (St. Nicholas or Christ-kinkle day, the 6th of December), Shrovetide, and May Day. As secular holidays only two remain, Christmas and New Year's Day, and the latter has lost all its old-time significance. The fashion of making New Year's calls yielded slowly to the difficulties in the way of its observance which the growth of the city interposed. New York clung to this genial custom, and relinquished it with regret, and it is only within the last twenty years that it has become altogether honored in the breach instead of the observance.

The holidays observed by the English were neither few nor far between. New Year's Day, King's or Queen's Birthday, King Charles's Martyrdom, Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Lady Day (the 25th of March, the old style beginning of the year, when leases were made and rents became due), Good Friday, Easter Monday and Tuesday, Ascension Day, St. George's Day, King Charles's Restoration, Prince of Wales's Birthday, Coronation Day, All Saints' Day, Gunpowder Plot, Christmas Day, and the Christmas holidays, December 26th to 28th—all these were officially

recognized by the closing of the Courts and Custom House; and there must be added several provincial

holidays, General Fast, Thanksgiving, and General Election Day. Quite enough, in all conscience!

The city was by no means destitute of sources of amusement for



both sexes; the men had their weekly evening clubs, and for the entertainment of the ladies there were concerts and assemblies. A pathetic protest against the overwhelming attractions of these gatherings appeared in the Gazette of December 31, 1733:

- "Written at a Concert of Music, where there were a great number of ladies.
  - "Music has power to melt the soul, By beauty nature's swayed; Each can the universe control, Without the other's aid.
  - "But here together both appear, And force united try; Music enchants the list'ning ear, And beauty charms the eye.
  - "What cruelty these powers to join!
    These transports who can bear?
    Oh! let the sound be less divine.
    Oh! look, ye nymphs, less fair."

The character of the entertainment afforded at these "consorts" is set forth in an advertisement of the musical purveyor of the day, which we copy from the same journal:

"On Wednesday, the 21 of January Instant there will be a Consort of Musick, Vocal and Instrumental, for the Benefit of Mr. Pachelbell, the Harpsicond Part performed by himself. The Songs, Violins and German Flutes by private hands. The Consort will begin precisely at 6 a'clock. In the house of Robert Todd, Vintner. Tickets to be had at the Coffee-House, and at Mr. Todd's, at 4 shillings."

William Smith, Chief Justice of the Province of Canada, and the author of a history of New York in 1757, affords us a pleasing glimpse of the ladies of his day, the daughters of the dames whose praises are sung by the unknown poet in Bradford's Gazette. It reveals the fact that they inherited the graces of person as well as the other attractive qualities of their fascinating mothers. He is not, however, altogether complimentary in his criticism. He admits that they were "comely and dressed well, and, tinctured with a Dutch education, managed their families with becoming parsimony, good providence, and singular neatness"; but he charges them, as well as the men, with a general neglect of reading, and indeed of all the arts for the improvement of the mind. Yet opportunities for mental culture had not been lacking. Free schools existed, and a public library had

been established in 1729, its nucleus being a collection of 1642 volumes bequeathed by the Rev. Dr. Millington, of Newington, England, to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and by it presented to the city. The Rev. John Sharpe, Chaplain to Her Majesty's Forts and Forces in the Province of New York, so early as 1713 proposed to donate a collection of books belonging to him to the city as a foundation for a public library, but there is no evidence that he ever carried out this benevolent intention.

The New York Society Library, the oldest circulating library now in existence, was organized in 1754, and chartered by Governor Tryon in 1772, at which time it contained 1278 volumes.

An advertisement in the New York Gazette of September 7, 1730, is interesting in this connection, and also as showing the intimate relations existing between James Lyne, the surveyor, and William Bradford, the printer, of the Bradford Map. Mr. Lyne notifies the public that he has fitted up a convenient room at the Custom House, where he designs teaching in the evenings during the winter "Arithmetick, in all its parts, Geometry, Trigonometry, Navigation, Surveying, Guaging, Algebra and sundry other parts of Mathematical Learning," and adds, "Whoever inclines to be instructed in any of the said parts of Mathematical Knowledge may agree with the said James Lyne at the house of William Bradford."

It is quite evident that these early settlers brought with them from the mother-country a decided taste for good living and a fondness for the comforts of life, and that they strove to cultivate as many of its amenities as it was possible to introduce into a new country. We are indebted to Chief Justice Smith for the following facts and opinions concerning his townspeople: "The people, both in town and country, are sober, industrious, and hospitable, though intent upon gain. The richer sort keep very plentiful tables abounding with great variety of fish, flesh, and all kinds of vegetables. The common drinks are beer, weak [sic] punch, and Madeira wine. For dessert we have fruits in vast plenty of different kinds and various species. . . . With respect to riches there is not so great an Inequality amongst us as is common in Boston and some other places. Every man of Industry and Integrity has it in his power to live well, and many are the instances of Persons who came here, distressed by their Poverty, who now enjoy easy and plentiful Fortunes."

The prevailing fashion in men's dress is illustrated by the inventory of the wardrobe of the English governor, His Excellency John Montgomerie, to whom the Map is dedicated. It embraces ruffled shirts, dimity vests, silk stockings with embroidered clocks, a scarlet cloak, a cloak and breeches with gold lace, a laced hat, a cloth suit with open silver lace, a gold-

headed cane, bobtail wig, periwig, and so on. Truly he must have presented an imposing appearance

when arrayed for ceremonious occasions. The gala dress of the private citizen was also showy and expensive, and the use of the small sword as an appendage to a gentleman's street costume was still common. A beau's ball costume is thus rhythmically described by a belle of 1725:



A FINE LONG QUEUE.

"Mine, a tall youth shall at a ball be seen,
Whose legs are like the spring, all cloth'd in green,
A yellow ribband ties his long cravat,
And a large knot of yellow cocks his hat."

The governor occupied the house within the Fort, and maintained considerable state in his style of living. Servants in livery thronged the Fort, and negro musicians enlivened the evening with their strains from the battlements.

A list of His Excellency's household effects embraces a large amount of table silver, and his cellar contained an extensive stock of wines and liquors. In his stable were a fine saddle-stallion, two coach-

horses, a number of working- and breeding-horses, a four-wheel chaise and harness, a coach with five sets of harness, carts, saddles, and no end of equine paraphernalia and trappings. After the governor's death in July, 1731, his effects were sold at public vendue. On October 11, 1731, appeared the following advertisement of this sale in the New York Gazette. His "large fine barge with damask curtains" had been previously disposed of at auction.

"To Morrow being the twelfth day of this Instant, at two o'Clock in the afternoon, at the Fort, will be exposed to sale by publick Vendue the following Goods, belonging to the Estate of his late deceased Excellency Governour Montgomerie, viz.:

"A fine new yallow Camblet Bed, lined with Silk & laced, which came from London with Capt Downing, with the Bedding. One fine Field Bedstead and Curtains, some blew cloth lately come from London, for Liveries; and some white Drap Cloth, with proper triming. Some Broad Gold Lace. A very fine Medicine Chest with great variety of valuable Medicines. A parcel of Sweet Meat & Jelly Glasses. A case with 12 Knives and twelve Forks with Silver Handles guilded. Some good Barbados Rum. A considerable Quantity of Cytorn Water. A Flask with fine Jesseme Oyl. . . And several other Things. All to be seen at the Fort.

"And also at the same Time and Place there will

be Sold, One Gold Watch, of Mr. Tompkin's make, and one Silver Watch. Two Demi-Peak Saddles, one with blew Cloth Laced with Gold, and the other Plain Furniture. Two Hunting Saddles. One Pair of fine

Pistols. A fine Fuzee mounted with Silver, and one long Fowling Piece."

Governor Montgomerie also brought from England his private library, which was the largest in the province prior to the Revolution, numbering 1341 volumes, mostly of a standard character.

In the list of articles of feminine apparel the most



MY LADY'S HEAD-DRESS.

noticeable item is that of petticoats. We are informed that Madame Philipse, a daughter of the famous old Burgomaster Van Cortlandt, and the widow of Frederick Philipse, one of the wealthiest men of the day, who was known as the "Dutch millionaire," possessed her red cloth petticoat, her black silk ditto, her red silver-lined petticoat, and her silk quilted petticoat. Her most notable article of Sunday outdoor ostentation was a splendid psalm-book with gold clasps which hung by a gold chain from her arm. The colonial dames of 1731 could go up in perfect

peace and quietness to the sanctuary on the Lord's day, for the orderly observance of the Sabbath was strictly enforced. Sunday liquor traffic was prohibited under a penalty of ten shillings for each offense, and the law ordained that no servile work but matters of necessity should be performed. Children were not permitted to play in the streets; the were perhaps expected to pass the interval between morning and evening service in conning their Scripture lesson from the old blue-and-white Dutch tiles, decorated with biblical subjects, with which most of the wide-mouthed chimney-places of that day were lined.

We are not surprised that a lady's wardrobe included a bountiful supply of comfortable undergarments when we read that in 1731 the churches were unprovided with stoves, and that the doors were left open during service, while the snow in winter drifted up the aisles. Foot-warmers and skirts innumerable would scarcely suffice to keep one's teeth from chattering during the protracted service then in vogue. The sermon was sure to be of an hour's duration. It was the duty of the clerk, whose seat was immediately in front of the high pulpit, to have an hour-glass standing near, and to properly turn it at the beginning of the sermon; when the last grain of sand had left the upper cavity, he would rap three times with his cane to remind the domine that an hour had elapsed. On one occasion a preacher temporarily supplying the pulpit of the "Old South"

quietly let two glasses run through, and then informed his hearers that as they had been patient in sitting through two hours he would proceed on a third. The collections were taken up in a velvet bag suspended from a pole. If the silver tinkle of the bell at the bottom of the bag was not sufficient to arouse an unusually sleepy member of the congregation, a gentle rap on the head was likely to follow.

The ministers in charge of the Collegiate Church at this time were Domine Dubois and the Rev. Henricus Boel. The former held the pastorate for over fifty years, and the latter for forty years.

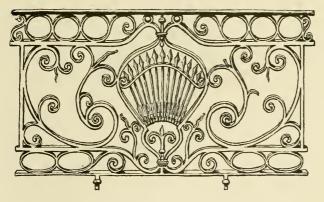
The year 1731 is memorable in the history of the city for the outbreak of a severe epidemic of small-pox, which began in the month of August and was not suppressed until the succeeding summer. The interments in the several burying-places up to the end of the year not only show the great mortality, but also in a measure indicate the strength of the different religious denominations in the city.\*

*Church o	f Eng	land			237
Dutch Ch	urch				218
French					16
Lutheran					1
Presbyter	ian				16
Quakers					2
Baptist					1
Jewish					2
Negro bu	rial-g	round			80
Total	•	•	•	•	573



FRAUNCES TAVERN, 1893.

Having become somewhat familiar with the streets of this half Dutch, half English town of our fore-fathers, let us now turn our attention to the Survey itself, thankful that there is even this one chartographic record remaining of a city the original architecture of which has been, with a single exception, completely changed. Of the 1500 houses it embraced, the well-known Fraunces Tavern (and it has been remodeled), built in 1701 on the southeast corner of Pearl and Broad streets, remains as the only link between the present city and that of William Bradford's Map.



SECTION OF THE IRON RAILING ON THE BALCONY OF THE FEDERAL EDIFICE IN WALL STREET.

We backward look to scenes no longer there.





A SOUTHWEST VIEW OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK IN NORTH AMERICA, 1776.

#### CHAPTER III

THE PRINCIPAL LANDMARKS OF THE CITY IN 1731

THE Bradford Map bears this inscription: "A Plan of the City of New York from an actual Survey Made by Iames Lyne." There is no date, but this is at once approximately determined by the inscription to Lieutenant-Governor Montgomerie, who held office for but three years, 1728 to 1731. The map must therefore have been published during this interval.

But there is conclusive evidence in the survey itself which enables us to fix the date with more precision. The city is divided into seven wards—

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Outward, North, South, East, West, Dock, and Mont-The last-named ward was added at the time of the granting of the Montgomerie Charter in 1731. It is highly probable that the addition of this new ward was the immediate occasion for the issue of the map, and it undoubtedly made its appearance in that year.

The map is printed on a thin laid paper, with a water-mark of which but little more than a fleur-de-lis can be positively deciphered. The engraving is light and delicate in execution, qualities which are entirely

lost in all reproductions made of it.

Of facsimiles there have been a number. Probably the first was a lithograph made in 1834 by George Hayward from the original in possession of G. B. Smith, street commissioner. A copy of this lithograph was made by order of the corporation to accompany a report of the Committee on Docks in 1836. To both of these the date 1728 was erroneously affixed.

Valentine's Manual for 1842-43 contained a copy of the map, as did also his History of New York published in 1853. Another reproduction was published by F. B. Patterson in 1874, and one (a colored lithograph by Joseph Laing which bore no date) by John Slater, bookseller. Both of these have been used by various mercantile firms as advertising signs. There is at least one reprint in circulation in addition to those mentioned above without any date of issue

or name of publisher upon it. All these maps are without doubt copies of the first reproduction from the original made in 1834, and two of them are apparently reimpressions from the first lithographic stone. All repeat the spurious date of 1728, and are guilty of the same omissions, notably of a number of the boats, and the words "Ledge of Rocks."

The interesting question is, What has become of the original map in possession of Street Commissioner Smith? It has never been traced, and it is therefore a gratuitous assumption on the part of the author of this book that it is the identical copy which subsequently fell into his possession; still, if this be not the case, it is passing strange that its whereabouts should not have been unearthed during thirty years.

The Bradford Map on a small scale appears in the left-hand corner of a copperplate map of the city issued in 1825 by David Longworth, and, similarly reduced and engraved on copper, was printed in Dunlap's History of New York in 1839. Other reproductions have appeared in various publications relating to the early history of the city.

In the left-hand upper corner of the Bradford Map is this inscription: "To His Excellency IOHN MONT-GOMERIE Esq. Capt Genl & Govr in Chief of his Majefti's Provinces of New York, New Iersey, &c. This Plan of the City of New York is humbly Dedicd by Your Excellencys obet & most humble servt Wm Bradford." These words are surmounted by the gov-

ernor's arms and motto, and underneath is a tablet containing a key to the localities indicated. The tablet is supported by emblematical figures supposed to represent Peace and War. In the opposite corner are engraved the arms of the city and the name of "Coll Robt Lurting, Mayor."

William Bradford, who printed the map, and by whose name it is best known, removed his printing-press from Philadelphia to New York in 1693, at the invitation of Governor Fletcher. For some time he was in government employ, and his press was principally occupied with government documents. The first book printed in New York at his press was a small quarto of 226 pages, George Keith's Truth Advanced, published in the same year (1694) that the Laws of the Province was issued.

In October, 1725, Bradford began the publication of the first newspaper printed in New York, the New York Gazette. It was a half sheet of foolscap paper filled with European news, custom-house entries, advertisements, rewards offered for the return of runaway slaves, and notices of slaves for sale by public vendue. With the beginning of 1727 (old style) he increased it in size to a whole sheet of foolscap, or four pages. Bradford also printed the first New York almanac, which was issued in 1694, and he was the father of copperplate engraving and of book-binding in the colony. At the foot of the outside page of his journal he inserts this notice

Numb. 304



# New-York Gazette

From August 16. to Monday August 23. 1731.



Continuation of the Extrall from the Foldied State which was begun in our Gazette, No 29), containing Observations on the Bills of Mortality.

For the Month of February, 173041.

In Infed. having communicated to the Royal Society the Bills of Martality of this City for the Years 1687, 88, 89, 50, 61, in which the Ages and Seyes or all that had died for that time were fet down monthly, and compared with the Births, Mr. Halley took thefe for his Standard, and iron thence has made mady

curious Calculations.

From these Bills it appeared, that in the five Years abovementioned there were born in that City 6193 Pe. son and baried \$3.5, which at a Middium is per Anum, born 1235, and buried 1174 whence an Increase of the reople may be supposed of \$4.15 Anum. which is about a twentieth part of these that are born, and may be supposted to he ballanced by those that go from that Town in the Emperors Armies, or into other Countries in fearch of a Livelihood. From the same Bills it appeared, that 348 died yearly in the first Year of their Age, and that 198 died in the five Years between one and fix compleat taken at a Medium, fo that from Mr Halley's Calculation we may empore that 575 of their Children died before their Age of ten, which is not one half of the Children born yearly in that City; from whence we may observe the great Difference that there is, between the healthfulness of the Children of that City and the Children that are born at London, of which by Computation above four fifths die before they arrive at the Age of ten. Mr. Ha"ev observes that from the Age of fix compleat, Children arrive at a greater Degree of Strength and Firmnes, and grow less and I is mortal; and from the Bills of Mortality at Breslam he has formed a Table of the Number of Perions of every Age from feven to a hundred inclusive, that die in a

From Mr. Habe's Table it appears evident that from the Age of Nine to about Twenty Five there does not die above Six per Annum of each intermediate Age at a Medium, which is about One per Cent, of the whole People of that Town of those Ages, which Proportion he last swas confirmed by the luformation he had from Corif's Courch Highinst, the Boys of which are generally at the Ages stom Eight or Nine to Fifteen or Sixteen and it was observed that about One in a Hundred of each Age died Yearly. From the Ages of Twenty Five to Fifty,

he fays, there feem to have died at Breflaw front beven to Eight or Nine per Ann of each interocidate Year's Age, and after that to Seventy, they feemed to grow more crazy; thi' the Namber of Perfens of thele Ages alive muft be much diminished, yet the Mortality increased, to that there are found to die I'en or Eleven per Annum of each intermediate Year's Age; from whence the Number of the Living grown very finall, the Bills gradually decline, till there he none left to die.

From these Considerations he formed a Table, which pives a more just lidea of the State and Conditions of Mankind, shan any thing hitler to, for what I know, made Piblick. It exhibits the Number of People in the City of Brefam of all Ages, from elmoit this. Firth to extream old Age, and thereby show the Chances of Morality of all Ages, and like-wish how to make an Estimate of the Value of Amustics for lives, as certain as any Calculation that depends upon Probabilities or Chances can possibly be made; also what Chances there are that a Perfon of any Age proposed shall live to any other Age given, and firves for many other Purposes, which he points forth in his laid most ingenious and useful Differtion.

From this Table it appears that the People of Breflam did contift of 34000 Human Souls, being the Sam Total of the Perfons of all Ages in the Table. The first Use of this Table is then to show the Proportion of Men able to bear Arms in any Multitude, which are the Men between Eighteen and Fifty Six, rather than Sixteen and Sixty, for he rea-fonably concludes, that Men under Eighteen are generally too weak to hear the Fatigues of War, and the Weight of Arms, and those above Fifty Six are generally too crazy, and infirm, notwithstanding particular Instances to the contrary. Under Eigh teen are found from this Table in the City of Breflaw 1 '997 Persons, and 3950 a'ove Fifty Six, which to-gether make 15947, which being deducted out of 44000, there remain: 18052, one half of which must be supposed to be Females and the other Males, and therefore we must conclude that there where in the Ciry of Breflam about 9000 Men fit to bear Arms, which is a Third and Seven Ninth Part of 34000 and if we confider that in every Multitude there are feveral Men who are of a proper Age, but because of some natural Infirmity are not fit for Service. we may then lay this down as a general Problem. that in every Multitude of People, of all Ages and Sexes, there are at least one Fourth that are fit to bear Arms; From which, if we know the Number



to his patrons, "Where you may have old books new He died in 1752, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years; the date of his birth being settled beyond dispute by a note in the table of his almanac for May, 1739 — "The Printer born May 20, 1663." "He was almost a stranger to illness all his life, and on the morning of the day of his death is said to have walked over a greater part of the city." As an old writer quaintly puts it, Quite worn out with old age and labor, his lamp of life went out for want of oil. He was buried in Trinity churchyard, and his tombstone, removed thence to the rooms of the New York Historical Society, now stands in the entrancehall of that building. In the inscription upon it, prepared by his apprentice James Parker, the date of his birth is given as having occurred in 1660, and his age is erroneously stated to have been ninety-two years.

The first edifice to which attention is directed on this map is the King's Chapel in the Fort—the old church of St. Nicholas, built in 1642 by the Dutch under William Kieft's administration. It was used by them as a place of worship until their removal to their new church in Garden Street in 1693, when it was relinquished to the British government and occupied by the royal military forces as a chapel until its destruction by fire in 1741. It was not rebuilt.

<sup>\*</sup>The site of the house where William Bradford issued the first newspaper in the city has been identified by the New York Historical Society as that of the New York Cotton Exchange building.

It was constructed of stone, and covered with oaken shingles called wooden slate, as they in time became blue in color, which gave them at a distance the appearance of slate. The dimensions were 72 feet long, 52 feet broad, and 16 feet high, and the cost was



THE GOVERNOR'S HOUSE AND THE CHURCH IN THE FORT AT NEW AMSTERDAM.

\$1040. The following story illustrating the fact that human nature is much the same in all ages, is told in connection with its erection. The governor had promised to furnish some of the Company's

money, and the remainder was to be raised by private subscription. A few days afterward the daughter of Domine Bogardus (the second\* pastor of the church) was married, and at the wedding party the governor and Captain De Vries, thinking it a rare opportunity to raise the requisite amount of funds, took advantage of the good humor of the guests and passed round the paper with their own names heading the list. As each one present desired to appear well in the eyes of his neighbor, a handsome sum was contributed. In the

<sup>\*</sup> The first minister of the Collegiate Church of New York was Domine Jonas Michaelius, a fellow-student in the University of Leyden of the celebrated Dutch poet Jakob Cats.





A View of St Paul's Church New-York.

From the New York Magazine, 1795.

morning some few appealed to the governor for permission to reconsider the matter, but His Excellency would permit no names to be erased from the paper. Governor Kieft and Domine Bogardus both lost their lives by shipwreck in 1647. As they were returning to Holland in the ship *Princess*, the vessel struck upon a rock on the coast of Wales, and only twenty passengers out of eighty were saved.

In the Fort, next to the King's Chapel, stood the governor's house, a two-story peaked-roof building, with two long, narrow dormer windows in the roof and an exterior chimney on each gable. It was occupied by the royal governors down to the period of its destruction by the fire of December 29, 1773, in which Governor William Tryon, the last resident, lost all his personal effects.

The next building indicated on the Bradford Map is Trinity Church on Broadway, at the head of Wall Street, where the third edifice of that name now stands overlooking one of the greatest money centers on the globe, while the music of its chiming bells mingles daily with the babel of the eager, hurrying multitude that beats and surges around the quiet graveyard lying in its shadow.

The first church was built on this spot in 1696, and stood virtually on the banks of the Hudson, the entrance facing the river as that of St. Paul's does now. The cemetery was inclosed on the Broadway side by a painted paled fence. This was the city burial-

place,\* and was granted in 1702 to the rector, wardens, and vestry of Trinity Church to be appropriated for a public burial-place forever, "they to keep the same in good fence and repair, and taking only for breaking of the ground for every person above twelve years of age 3s. 6d. and for each child under twelve years 1s. 6d., and no other or greater duty whatsoever for the breaking of said ground."

The first building was twice enlarged, once in 1735, and again two years later. It was destroyed by fire in 1776, and rebuilt in 1788. It was finally taken down and the present edifice begun in 1839 and completed in 1846. Church of England services were first regularly held in the chapel in the Fort in 1664, after the surrender of the colony to the British by Governor Stuyvesant. The Rev. William Vesey, from whom Vesey Street takes its name, was the first rector of Trinity parish.

Following our guide we come next to the Old Dutch Church in Garden Street, or Garden Alley, as it was called when the church was surrounded by a garden, "imposed in all the formal stiffness of cut box and trimmed cedar presenting tops nodding to tops, and each alley like its brother, the whole so like Holland itself." The site when first selected was objected to as being so far out of town. The church

<sup>\*</sup>The first burial-plot in the city was on the west side of Broadway, near Morris Street, comprising 4 lots 25 x 100 feet each. This was broken up in 1676.



TRINITY CHURCH, SECOND EDIFICE.

was opened for divine service in 1693, before it was entirely finished. "It was an oblong square with three sides of an octagon on the east side. In the front it had a brick steeple, on a large square founda-

11 8

tion so as to admit a room above the entry for a consistory room. The windows were remarkable for their size, and the leaden sashes for the smallness of their



THE "OLD SOUTH" CHURCH IN GARDEN STREET, BUILT 1693.

panes. Many of these contained coats-of-arms of the elders and magistrates 'curiously burnt in glass' by Gerardus Duyckinck." The inner rear wall was also decorated with escutcheons. Gerardus Duyckinck appears to have been a glassstainer and to have kept the art emporium of the period. He advertises his business as a limner and picture-deal-

er in the New York Gazette in this wise: "Looking glasses new silvered . . . Also all sorts of pictures made and sold. All manner of painting work done . . . All sorts of painting coullers and oyl sold

at reasonable rates . . . at the sign of the Two Cupids near the Old Slip Market. N. B. Where you may have ready money for old looking glasses."

The Garden Street Church, or "Old South," continued the only house of worship of the Reformed

Dutch Church until the erection of the one at the corner of Nassau and Liberty streets. In 1766 it was thoroughly repaired, and in 1807 it was taken down and a new edifice erected on the same spot. The new building was used until it was destroyed in the great fire of 1835.



THE GARDEN STREET CHURCH, SECOND EDIFICE.

In 1813 the "Old South" separated from the Collegiate Church, and became a distinct congregation in charge of the Rev. Dr. Matthews.

The Dutch language was in use in the pulpit of the Garden Street Church certainly as late as 1764. In March of that year Domine De Ronde, who with Domine Ritzema was in pastoral charge of the two Collegiate churches, preached a sermon at the installation of Dr. Archibald Laidlie, the first Collegiate\*

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;The Collegiate Church of New York is so called because it is a group of congregations in one organization."

minister who officiated in the English language. Domine De Ronde's text was taken from Isaiah xxx. 20, "The cogen sullen two Lectaers sien" ("Thine eyes shall see thy teachers").

The French church Le Temple du Saint Esprit, on the northeast side of King Street (now Pine) was founded in 1704. The building was 50 x 77 feet, and stood upon a lot of ground 70 feet front and 157 feet deep, running through to Little Queen Street. The space not occupied by the church was used as a graveyard. This edifice remained standing one hundred and thirty years, and was taken down in 1834.

The establishment of a church by the devoted little company of Walloons who were driven into Holland by the terrors of the St. Bartholomew Massacre and emigrated to this country with the Dutch, is almost coeval with the settlement of the colony. The first Huguenot church was erected in 1688. It was a small, plain building in Marketfield Street, then called Petticoat Lane, near the Battery. The site is now covered by the Produce Exchange building.

George Jansen Rapelye, whose daughter Sarah was long reputed to have been the first female white child\*

<sup>\*&</sup>quot;The first birth of a child of European parentage in New Netherland was probably that of Jean Vigné, whose parents came from Valenciennes, France. He is believed to have been born in 1614, eleven years before Sarah de Rapelye, and at the very earliest period compatible with the sojourn of any Hollanders upon our territory. If this statement is correct, Jean Vigné is not

born in New Amsterdam, was one of these Walloon emigrants. Many of them settled at New Rochelle, where a church building was erected as early as 1692.

In the Burgis picture of the Middle Dutch Church, the French edifice is seen in the background. The tower is surmounted by a cupola and weathercock almost identical in form with that of the Dutch Church.

The small print here introduced gives a view of the building before this cupola was added.

The New Dutch Church, 70 x 100 feet in size, on the corner of Nassau and Liberty



LE TEMPLE DU SAINT ESPRIT.

(then called Crown) streets, was completed in 1731, but had been opened for religious worship in 1729. The location was at this time "quite on the verge of the more compact part of the city."

When this building was taken down in 1882 it was the most venerable church edifice in the city, and had had a checkered history. British troops had turned it into a riding-school for cavalry, but the desecrated temple was restored after the Revolution

only the first born of European parents in New Netherland, but, as far as known, in the whole United States north of Virginia."

and again devoted to religious purposes. It was reopened for public worship on the 4th of July, 1790. The sermon on this occasion was delivered by the Rev. Dr. John H. Livingston.

There were no galleries in the church when it was first built, and the ceiling was one entire arch without pillars. The pulpit, covered with an enormous canopy or sounding-board, stood against the east wall, while the entrance was by two doors in front on the Nassau Street side. In 1764 the pulpit was moved to the north end, and the pews and entrances altered.

The bell, which was cast in Amsterdam, was presented by Abraham De Peyster, who died in 1728 while the church was in process of erection. A number of Amsterdam citizens are said to have thrown silver coins into the preparation of the bellmetal. This "trophy of antiquity" now hangs in the tower of the Reformed Dutch Church at the corner of Forty-eighth Street and Fifth Avenue.

The last religious service in the New Dutch Church was held on the evening of August 11, 1844. Dr. John Knox delivered the sermon, and the building after an occupancy of one hundred and fifteen years was finally closed with the apostolic benediction pronounced in the Dutch language by the Rev. Dr. Thomas De Witt.

The ground upon which the church was built originally cost £575. In 1860 the property was purchased by the authorities at Washington for the sum

of \$200,000 for use as a post-office.\* The church trustees, however, received for the property \$250,000, the amount above the \$200,000 appropriated by Congress being contributed mostly by members of the New York Chamber of Commerce. In 1882 the



THE MIDDLE DUTCH CHURCH WHEN USED AS THE POST-OFFICE.

government disposed of the property at public auction, and it was secured by the Mutual Life Insurance Co. of New York for a sum that was at the time considered far below its value, \$650,000.

The print of the Middle Dutch Church by William Burgis, of which a reproduction is given, was probably executed shortly after the completion of the

<sup>\*</sup>They had previously leased it for the same purpose.

building. It is inscribed, as has been already stated, "to the Honourable Rip Van Dam, Esq<sup>r</sup>, President of His Majesty's Council for the Province of New York."



THE PRESBYTERIAN MEETING HOUSE IN WALL STREET.

This worthy of the olden time occupied a distinguished political position in the province, being for many years president of the council, and for a short time (the interregnum between the administrations of Montgomerie and Cosby) the acting governor. Although in point of wealth not ranking with the most

prosperous merchants, he was considered to possess a comfortable fortune. The value of his property probably did not exceed \$25,000. In 1732 he petitioned for and was given a small gore of land at the present intersection of Liberty Street and Maiden Lane, 103 feet in length, for the nominal sum of 10 shillings, as being of little or no value to any one else but him. With property in the city of New York



PRESIDENT of the Autistis Council for the PROVINCE of NEW YORK
This View file dew Butch Church amost humble
Deducated by nour Theorem most Obedient Serie Con Butch

FROM THE ORIGINAL ENGRAVING IN THE COLLECTION OF W. L. ANDREWS.



thus going a-begging, one could be "passing rich on £40 a year." Rip Van Dam died in 1749, aged near ninety years. His wife was Sarah Vanderspeigel, one of the two daughters of Laurens Vanderspeigel, a baker, who by long and devoted attention to his business had accumulated a "handsome" property.

The Presbyterian Meeting House, on the north side of Wall Street, near Broadway, was erected in 1719. The ground had been purchased some time previously from Abraham De Peyster and Samuel Bayard for about \$875. This edifice suffered the common fate of all the church buildings in the city during the Revolution, and was turned into a barracks for British troops. It was enlarged in 1748 and again in 1810, and was destroyed by fire in 1834, but immediately rebuilt. Jonathan Edwards occupied the pulpit of this church for a short period in 1721.

The other church buildings shown upon the Bradford Map are the Quaker Meeting House, a small frame building in Little Green Street (a lane running from Maiden Lane to Liberty Street), built about 1703; the Baptist Church on Golden Hill, erected in 1724; the Lutheran Church, a modest stone building built in 1702 on the corner of Rector Street and Broadway, afterward the site of the first Grace Church; and the Jewish Synagogue in Mill Street, completed in 1730.

The first building occupied as a City Hall stood at the head of the present Coenties Slip, on the corner

12

of Pearl Street, and was originally the City Tavern. built by the government in 1642 and granted to the city as a Stadthuys in 1653. It was sold in 1699 for £920 to John Rodman, merchant. The construction



THE STADTHUYS IN COENTIES SLIP.

First City Hall of New York.

of a new City Hall was immediately begun, and it was completed in 1700 at a cost of £1151 18s. 3d. At the time of its erection the line of Wall Street upon which it stood was all vacant ground, and was not built upon for many years subsequently. The building was of stone, some of which is said to have been taken out of the bastions which stood upon the line of fortifications in Wall Street. It had a roof of copper, and was surmounted by a cupola. The common jail and dungeon was for a time located in the

basement and subcellar of this building, and the debtors' prison in the open garret, which was neither ceiled nor plastered. After the Revolution the exterior was remodeled and the interior refitted under the supervision of Major L'Enfant, the well-known French military engineer, with the expectation of



THE OLD CITY HALL IN WALL STREET.

From Grim's Drawing.

making it the permanent residence of the Federal Legislature, and it was named the Federal Edifice. The building, as altered at this time, was fully described in the Columbian Magazine for 1789. The basement story was styled Tuscan, and was pierced with seven openings. Four massive pillars in the center supported four Doric columns and a pedi-

ment. The frieze was divided so as to admit thirteen stars in the metopes. These, with the American eagle and other insignia in the pediments, and the tablets over the windows filled with thirteen arrows and the olive-branch united, marked it as a building set apart for national purposes. The representatives' room was octagonal in form, 61 feet deep and 36 feet



THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE, 1795.

From the New York Magazine.

high, with a domed ceiling. It was finished in lightblue damask. The senate-chamber had an arched ceiling, and was 40 feet long, 30 feet wide, and 20 feet high, furnished in crimson damask. This room opened into a gallery in front of the building which was 12 feet deep, and was guarded by a handsome iron railing. In this gallery Washington took the oath



From the Massachusetts Magazine, 1789.



of office as first President of the United States in the presence of a large concourse of people who assembled in front of the building. A statue of Washington on the steps of the Sub-Treasury marks the

spot where this historical incident occurred.

Among other preparations at this time made in the expectation that New York would be



THE CITY HALL IN THE PARK.

fixed upon as the capital city of the country, was the erection of the Government House on the site of Fort George, opposite the Bowling Green, intended as the official residence of the President of the United States. It was the finest mansion in New York at the close of the last century—a stately edifice of red brick with lonic columns. Before it was completed the seat of government was removed to Philadelphia, and the building was then appropriated to the use of the governors of the State. Later it became the Custom-House, and in the year 1815 was removed. The Bowling Green block of oldfashioned brick houses now stands on its site, and in the whirligig of time the scene will shortly shift again and a new custom-house will probably occupy the same ground as its predecessor.

The foundation-stone of the present City Hall was laid at its southeast corner on May 26, 1803, during the mayoralty of Edward Livingston, and the building was finished in 1812 at a cost of half a million dollars, exclusive of the furniture. The architect was



BROADWAY AND FULTON STREET.

The City Hall in the Distance.

John McComb, a native of New York. The dimensions are 216 feet in length by 105 feet in breadth. The front and both ends were finished in white marble brought from West Stockbridge, Massachusetts, but the rear in brown freestone. The use of this cheaper material on the up-town side has given rise to the facetious statement that the builders considered it a favorable opportunity to save expense upon a part of the edifice that would rarely fall under observation.

When completed this building was justly considered the finest structure in the United States. It was long *the* show-place of the city, open to visitors every week-day, except Monday, after 3 P. M., with a person in attendance to exhibit the building for a small douceur. It still remains, after the lapse of nearly a century, the most chaste and pleasing example of municipal architecture in the city, infinitely superior, from an artistic standpoint, if from no other, to the edifice which stands behind it, and which has cost the taxpayers twenty-four times as much.

The remaining buildings which James Lyne indicates on his map are the Custom-House in Dock Street, the Weigh-House, Bayard's Sugar-House, the Exchange in Broad Street, two Free Schools (one Dutch and one English), and four Market-places—the Fish, Old Slip, Meat, and Fly markets. These are of no particular historical importance, and require no special reference.



THE ROYAL EXCHANGE.

A different face of things each age appears, And all things alter in a course of years.





NEW YORK FROM GOVERNOR'S ISLAND, 1831.

#### CHAPTER IV

#### CONCLUSION

WE shall bring to a close this effort to retrace the lines and repeople the city of New York as it was at the time when James Lyne measured and mapped out its streets, with an extract from the oft-quoted diary of a Swedish traveler, Professor Peter Kalm, who visited the country in 1748, seventeen years subsequent to the date of the survey. In the interval the population had not greatly increased, and the general appearance of the city had undergone no marked change.

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"The streets," he informs us, "do not run so straight as those of Philadelphia, and have sometimes considerable bendings; however, they are very spacious and well built, and most of them are paved, excepting in high places where it has been found useless. In the chief streets there are trees planted which, in summer, give them a fine appearance, and during the excessive heat at that time afford a cooling shade. 1 found it extremely pleasant to walk in the town, for it seemed quite like a garden. The trees which are planted for this purpose are chiefly of two kinds. The water-beech is the most numerous, and gives an agreeable shade in summer by its large and numerous leaves. The locust-tree is likewise frequent; its fine leaves and the odoriferous scent which exhales from its flowers make it very proper for being planted in the streets near the houses and in gardens. There are likewise lime-trees and elms in these walks, but they are not by far so frequent as the others. . . . Besides numbers of birds of all kinds which make these trees their abode, there are likewise a kind of frogs which frequent them in great numbers during the summer; they are very clamorous in the evening and in the nights (especially when the days have been hot, and a rain is expected), and in a manner drown the singing of the birds.

"Most of the houses are built of brick and are generally strong and neat, and several stories high. Some have, according to the old architecture, turned

the gable-ends toward the street, but the new houses are altered in this respect. Many of the houses have a balcony on the roof on which the people sit in the evenings in the summer-time, and from thence they have a pleasant view of a great part of the town, and likewise of part of the adjacent water, and of the opposite shore.

"The roofs are commonly covered with shingles or tile, the former of which are made of the white firtree which grows higher up in the country. . . . The walls of the houses are white-washed within, and I do not anywhere see hangings, with which the people in this country seem in general to be little acquainted. The walls are quite covered with all sorts of drawings and pictures in small frames. On each side of the chimneys they usually have a sort of alcove, and the wall under the window is wainscoated, with benches under the window. The alcoves as well as all of the woodwork are painted with a bluish-gray color. . . . The winter is much more severe here than in Philadelphia. The snow lies for some months together on the ground, and sledges are made use of. The river Hudson is about a mile and a half wide at this point, and the ice stands in it not only one but for even several months. It has sometimes a thickness of more than two feet.

"The inhabitants are sometimes greatly troubled with mosquitoes. They either follow the hay, which is made in the low meadows near the town, which

are quite penetrated with salt water, or they accompany the cattle when brought home at evening. . . .

"The watermelons which are cultivated near the town, grow very large. They are extremely delicious, and are better than in other parts of America, though they are planted in the open fields and never in a hotbed. I saw a watermelon at Governor Clinton's which weighed 47 English pounds, and another at a merchant's in town 42 pounds weight; however, they were reckoned the largest ever seen in the country. Oysters are plenty and of fine quality."

Our keen-eyed visitor appears to have been, in the main, very favorably impressed with the island of Manhattan, and would doubtless have readily indorsed the verdict rendered by Hendrick Hudson a century previous that it was "a very good land to live in and a pleasant land to see." In one respect the city he described in 1748 has certainly not improved as it has grown greater and more populous. The cool and attractive summer residence he depicts, and upon which fact he lays such stress, is a dream of the past. Forests of telegraph-poles, with electric wires for leaves and branches, have taken the place of the rows of pleasant shade-trees, and the invigorating breezes of the bay can no longer, in the dog-days. find their way through streets whose buildings shut out both air and sunlight. The song-birds, too, have flitted away, leaving the quarrelsome little English sparrow in undisputed possession of the town.



FATHER KNICKERBOCKER.

More than fifty years ago this pessimistic view of the future of the ancient Knickerbocker city was presented by the editor of the New York Mirror (G. P. Morris) in the columns of his journal: "The city of the Knickerbockers is fast disappearing from the world of realities, and their homes are following them to the vast shadow of oblivion. Tiled roofs and high peaked gable-ends have already undergone the fate of the cocked hats, the eel-skin queues, and the multitudinous small clothes that once gave assurance of a race of Knickerbockers in this venerable city; all are gone, and in a few short years there will be none to remember that such things were! St. Nicholas has abandoned his once favorite metropolis, and how should it be otherwise since there is not a Dutch chimney-corner left for him to nestle in?"

Happily we have not yet lived to see the complete fulfilment of this dismal prophecy.

"That blissful and never to be forgotten age,
When everything was better than it has been e'er
since,"

has undeniably passed out of sight, but not entirely out of mind; it is still to memory dear. The Belgic New Amsterdam of the seventeenth century has become the cosmopolitan New York of the nineteenth; nevertheless, we maintain that it is Diedrich Knicker-

bocker's city still, and that its patron saint is none other than the good St. Nicholas.

The birth of the approaching century will witness the complete transformation of the 22,000 acres included in Peter Minuit's purchase two and a half centuries ago from a wilderness of woods and streams to one of bricks and mortar, with a population exceeded in numbers by that of but two other cities on the face of the earth — a marvelous outgrowth from the little cluster of thatched roofs and wooden chimneys which nestled for protection under the walls of the Fort at the Battery, and over which floated the flag of "Oranje boven," the tricolor of Holland.

All honor to those of every clime and nationality whose brain and sinew have contributed to this result, but, above all, honor to the pioneers, the men who led the way, the sturdy, stout-hearted Dutchmen who, in founding the colony of New Netherland, builded far better than they knew and laid the substructure of a city fairer and greater than in their wildest flights of fancy it could have entered into their minds to conceive.

The Dutch discoverers of New Netherland were, said Chancellor Kent in an address before the New York Historical Society in 1828, grave, temperate, firm, persevering men, who brought with them the industry, the economy, the simplicity, the integrity, and the bravery of their Belgic sires, and with these virtues they also imported the lights of the Roman

civil law and the purity of the Protestant faith. To that period we are to look with chastened awe and respect for the beginnings of our city and the works of our primitive fathers.

> Iemand de eere geeven die hem toekomt.

> > Finis.



FLAG OF THE DUTCH WEST INDIA COMPANY.

# CHRONOLOGICAL ARRANGEMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL HISTORICAL EVENTS REFERRED TO IN THIS BOOK.

- 1609 The North River discovered and explored by Hendrick Hudson.
- 1614 A trading post established at Fort Nassau on Castle Island, near Albany.
  - Birth of the first child of European parentage in New Netherland.
- 1626 Purchase of the Island of Manhattan by the Dutch West India Company.
- 1633 The first church erected on the Island.
- 1642 The first church on the Island abandoned to business purposes.
  - The Church of St. Nicholas built in the Fort.
  - The City Tavern built by the Government.
- 1647 Ex-Governor Kieft and Domine Bogardus shipwrecked.
- 1651 View of "t' Fort nieuw Amfterdam op de Manhatans" published at Amsterdam.
- 1652 The city incorporated under the name of New Amsterdam.
- 1653 The City Tavern given to the municipality for a Stadthuys.

  Organization of a city magistracy.
- 1656 The city surveyed and a map of it made.
  - Adriaen vander Donck's view of "Nieuw Amsterdam" published.
- 1658 A road laid out from the Collect Pond to Harlem.
- 1660 Incorrect date of William Bradford's birth engraved on his tombstone.
- 1663 Birth of William Bradford.
- 1664 Surrender of the colony to the English by Governor Stuyvesant.
- 1676 The first city burial-place broken up into lots.

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#### Chronological Index

1686 The first coach in New York brought by Colonel William Smith.

The Park ceded to the Corporation of the City of New York by Governor Dongan.

1688 The first Huguenot church built.

1691 Acting Lieutenant-Governor Jacob Leisler executed.

1693 The Garden Street Church built.

William Bradford's press removed from Philadelphia to New York.

1694 The first almanac and the first book printed in New York by William Bradford.

The Laws of the Province first printed.

1696 The first Trinity Church erected. The first hackney coach advertised.

1699 The Stadthuys sold to John Rodman, merchant.

1700 The City Hall in Wall Street built.

1701 Fraunces Tavern built on the corner of Pearl and Broad streets.

1702 The Lutheran Church built.

1703 The Quaker Meeting House built.

1704 Le Temple du St. Esprit built.

1705 The "King's Farm" property granted by Lord Cornbury to the corporation of Trinity Church.

1707 Broadway paved with stone from Trinity Church to Maiden Lane.

1719 The Presbyterian Meeting House or Church in Wall Street erected.

1721 Jonathan Edwards the minister for a short time of the Presbyterian Church in Wall Street.

1724 The first Baptist Church built.

1725 The first newspaper issued in New York.

1728 Date erroneously ascribed to the Bradford Map.
Death of Abraham de Peyster.

1729 Gift of books to the city for a public library.

New or Middle Dutch Church opened for worship.

#### Chronological Index

- 1730 The first Jewish Synagogue built.
- 1731 PROBABLE DATE OF THE BRADFORD MAP.

Contemporaneous date of the View of Castle William and of the Middle Dutch Church print.

The Montgomerie Charter granted. (The Charter is dated January 15, 1730, but as the old style of reckoning then in use began the year in March, the correct date according to existing usage is 1731.)

Death of Governor John Montgomerie, and sale of his effects.

A Fire Department organized by city ordinance.

The New or Middle Dutch Church completed.

A smallpox epidemic in the city.

A census taken of the city and county.

- 1732 Sale of lots in Dock Street, showing value of real estate at this period.
- 1733 Bowling Green laid out by city ordinance.
- 1734 A law passed for the preservation of fish in the Collect Pond.
- 1735 Trinity Church enlarged.
- 1739 Date of the Almanac in which mention is made of William Bradford's birth. See table for May.
- 1741 Discovery of an alleged Negro Plot, and execution by hanging or burning of many of the accused.
   The King's Chapel in the Fort destroyed by fire.
- 1742 A map of the city drawn by David Grim.
  Brick-kilns in operation on the Commons.
- 1745 A knowledge of the Dutch language still necessary in visiting markets.
- 1748 The Presbyterian Church in Wall Street enlarged.
- 1749 Death of Rip Van Dam.
- 1750 The first coach-builder established in New York.
- 1752 Death of William Bradford.
- 1754 The New York Society Library founded.
- 1755 A map of the city published by Gerardus Duyckinck.
- 1757 A History of New York published by Chief Justice Smith.
- 1764 The English language first used in Collegiate Churches.

#### Chronological Index

- 1766 The Garden Street Church extensively repaired.
- 1772 The New York Society Library chartered.
- 1773 The Governor's House in the Fort destroyed by fire.
- 1776 The Great Fire. Trinity Church burned.
- 1788 Trinity Church rebuilt.
- 1789 Washington inaugurated on the balcony of the Federal Edifice in Wall Street.
- 1790 The Middle Dutch Church reopened for public worship after the Revolution.
- 1794 Many changes made in names of streets.
- 1803 The foundation-stone of the City Hall in the Park laid.
- 1805 The Collect Pond filled in.
- 1807 The second church edifice in Garden Street built.
  A copy of the Bradford Map presented to the New York
  Historical Society by John Pintard.
- 1810 The Presbyterian Church in Wall Street again enlarged.
- 1812 The City Hall in the Park completed.
- 1813 The Garden Street Church becomes an independent congregation.
- 1815 The Government House removed.
- 1834 Probable date of first facsimile of the Bradford Map.

  The Presbyterian Church in Wall Street destroyed by fire.

  The French Church in Pine Street taken down.
- 1835 The second Great Fire. The Garden Street Church burned.
- 1839 The second Trinity Church taken down, and the present edifice begun.
- 1844 The last religious service held in the Middle Dutch Church.
- 1846 The third Trinity Church completed.
- 1860 The Middle Dutch Church purchased by the United States Government for use as a post-office. The General Postoffice had been located in this building since its removal, in 1845, from the Rotunda in the City Hall Park.
- 1882 The Middle Dutch Church sold by the Government to the New York Mutual Life Insurance Company, and the building demolished.

		$\neg$
A Description of the High ways and Roads		
From Philadelphia to New-York, 98 Miles		
Thus Accounted		
From Philadelphia, M. To Burlington, 20	To Cranberry Brook, 12	
	To Amboy, 20	
To Dr. Browns, 9	To the Narrows, 18 To Flat-Bush, 5 To New York. 5	
To Croswick's Bridge 5	To Flat-Bush, 5	
To Allen's Town, 4	To New York, 5	
From New-York to Bofton, 273 Miles		
Thus Accounted		
Prom New-York M.		
$\Gamma$ To Half-way-house 7	To Killingsworth, 10	
To Kings-Bridge 8	To Seabrook * 10	1
To East-Chester, 5	To New-London, 18	
To New-Rochel, 4	To Stoneington, 15	
To Rye, 4	To Pemberton, 10	
To Horse-neck, 7	To Darby, 3	
To Stanford, 7	To the French Town, 24	
To Norwalk, 10	To Providence, 20	
To Fairfield, 12	To Woodcocks, 15	
o Stratford, 8	To Billends, 10	
To Millford, 4	To Whites, 7	
To New-Haven, 10	To Dedham, 6	
To Branford, 01	To Boston, 10	
From Philadelphia to	Annabolis in Maryland.	
	ccounted	
	1 27 3 7 1 73 0	
From Philadelphia M	To North East, 7 To the Iron-Works, 6	
T to Derby, 7	777 C C 1 12	
To Chefter, 9		
To Namans Creek, 5	To Gunpowder Ferry 25	
To Brandy Wine Ferry, 9	To Tatapico Ferry, 20	
To Crifteena Feryr,	To City of Annapolis, 30 In all 144 Miles,	
To NewCastle 5	*Posts change the Males	
To Elk River, 17	*Totts change the Males	



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#### CORRECTIONS.

Page 21, line 28. For "only copy" read "only perfect copy."
An imperfect copy is in the possession of Trinity Church.
Page 32, line 19. For "t'Maadge Paatge" read "t'Maagde Paatje."















